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Note by the Secretary-General

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* Reports submitted by non-governmental organizations are issued without formal editing.

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1. Asian Centre for Organization, Research and Development

Special Consultative Status Granted 1999

Aims and Purposes:

It a national SEDO (Socio-Economic Development Organisation) with professionally competent personnel, registered as a non-profit NGO in April 1983 under the Societies Act (1860), India. Its aim is to contribute to human resource development, organisational effectiveness, and to facilitate participative change / sustained change in organisations and communities (both urban and rural). This contribution is made for various groups and organisations covering the poorest to higher socio- economic groups. ACORD is conducting field-level research and organizational studies, working both as a resource organisation and implementing model-building, replicable, development projects, besides consultancy, training a variety of target groups with different levels of learning capabilities ranging from users to Policy makers and Distance Education services to a large number of NGOs. ACORD has a special focus on rural and urban development, environment, governance, and health sectors. It has recently made a beginning in the field of Human Rights.

Brief Introduction (Summary of contents)

After the grant of Special ECOSOC status, ACORD participated in (a) the Socio Economic Summit, Asia Pacific Caucus, where a presentation on the "Large Group Interactive Process" for facilitating participative change" was made; (b) Conference on "Women 2000: Gender equality, development and peace for the 21" century" and(c) the World Summit for Social Development, where a model set up by ACORD for poverty alleviation, was presented. We also attended the UN Sub commission on Promotion and Protection of Human Rights and UN Human Rights Commission (2002) and presented papers on "Economic, Social & Cultural Rights"; "Administration of Justice"; "Prevention of Discrimination and Protection of Minorities", "Civil & Political Rights", and "Human Rights & Terrorism". ACORD has also undertaken and successfully completed projects assigned by UN bodies on Solid Waste Management, Job Audit & Office Work study, and Environment.

PARTICIPATION IN CONFERENCES RELATED TO THE WORK OF ECOSOC AND ITS SUBSIDIARY BODIES FOR THE PERIOD 1999-2002:

1999: During the first year of its Special Consultative Status, The Chairman of the Board, & the President & CEO both attended the Socio Economic Summit at New York in November 1999.

2000: On 14 March 2000, one of our Board Members, Dr Sarla Gopalan actively participated in the Asia Pacific Caucus at New York and presented the "Large Group Interactive Process" for facilitating participative change, in which field ACORD has

specialized. It was explained as to how this process can be applied in different circumstances, both for organisations and communities. This process has been designed and conducted for various organisations (both 'For Profit' and "on-Profit') as well as for urban change and the Social Development Sector also. The Chairman of the Board and the President & CEO also attended the World Summit for Social Development from the 3rd -14th of April 2000 at New York. In this Summit, on 6 April 2000, a model set up by ACORD - "THE FIRST STEP - Out of the Poverty Trap with Less Than $ 50 per family - A successful Pilot-Project in India" was presented before the distinguished gathering of NGOs & UN Representatives (at the UN Headquarters, New York).

Dr. Sarla Gopalan, a Member of the Board of Governors, also participated in "Women 2000 : Gender equality, development and peace for the 21' century" held at the UN-New York from 5-9 June 2000.

2001: The Chairman of the Board, the President & CEO, and two Associate Members (4 in all) from ACORD participated in the 53rd Session of the UN Sub commission on Promotion and Protection of Human Rights held from June 30-August 17, 2001 at Geneva and presented papers on: (a) Economic, Social and Cultural Rights, (b) Administration of Justice, and (c) Prevention of Discrimination and Protection of Minorities.

2002: The Chairman of the Board and the President & CEO both actively participated in the 58th session of UN Human Rights Commission at Geneva in April 2002 and actively participated on (a) Economic, Social & Cultural rights (b) Civil & Political rights and (c) Human Rights & Terrorism. ACORD represented by its Chairman and President & **CEO** also attended the 54th session of UN Sub-commission on Human Rights at Geneva held from 29th of July to the 16th of August 2002. They participated in the deliberation of 'Economic Social & Cultural Rights' and 'Prevention of Discrimination and Protection of Minorities'.

Cooperation with UN bodies and specialized agencies: During the period, the Organisation has undertaken the following projects of UN bodies and specialized agencies in India, successfully completed, and the detailed reports submitted :1) UNDP-WB-WSP-SA - Initiative in Solid Waste Management in Kuppam, Andhra Pradesh :Feb 1999; 2) UNDP-WB-WSP-SA - Study on Solid Waste Management in Bharatpur, Rajasthan : March 1999; 3) UNFPA - Job Audit & Office Work study : August 1999; 4) UNDP-WB-WSP-SA - Pilot Project to facilitate improved Solid Waste Management in Kuppam, Andhra Pradesh : February & July 2000; and 5) UNDP - Upgrading Environment Quality of Delhi : October 2001

2. Association of Medical Doctors of Asia

Special consultative status granted 1995

AMDA (the Association of Medical Doctors of Asia) is a non-governmental, non-profit and non-sectarian organization promoting health and welfare for people in need. Incepted on Aug. 1, 1984 in Okayama, Japan. AMDA's network today encompasses 30 chapters and 14 main project offices in the world. The organization aims to contribute to the world peace through emergency medical relief activities and long-term development programmes consistent with local needs and priorities. Founded on the principle of "sogo-fujo", a Japanese term for mutual assistance, AMDA fosters international network of partnership in its pursuit of peaceful coexistence of diversity throughout the world. Below is a brief summary of AMDA's projects in collaboration with UN bodies and specialized agencies over the past four years, from 1999 to 2002.

- **Djibouti** (Care & Maintenance Assistance to Refugees in Djibouti) ; AMDA's presence in Africa dates back to 1993 in the aftermath of the influx of Somali and Ethiopian refugees into Djibouti in the early 90s. AMDA continues to play a vital role in the refugee camps of Ali-Add6 and Holl-Holl in Djibouti as the sole UNHCR implementing agency in the health sector. Consistent with the agreement reached by UNHCR, ONARS (The Government's Office National d'assistance aux Refugiés et Sinistrés) and AMDA in 1994, AMDA provides the refugees with comprehensive medical and health programmes. The medical team includes two expatriate doctors actively involved in the daily programme as well as in the capacity building programme for local medical staff and volunteers.

Angola (Emergencv Intervention for M'Banza Congo Provincial Hospital) :In August 2000 AMDA was commissioned by UNHCR to assist MBanza Congo Provincial Hospital in Angola in their restoration efforts and implementation of medical services to local population including internally displaced people. The project focused on four areas of activities: capacity building of the hospital staff, distribution and maintenance of essential drugs and medical equipments, primary health care activities, restoration and maintenance of key provisional facilities including water/sanitation and electricity. AMDA's project also included a training programme in conjunction with UNFPA providing training to maternity nurses of provincial hospital on reproductive health and major diseases. In the primary health care activities, AMDA worked with UNICEF in supplying and educating people on nutrition. Emergencv &Trypanosomiasis Units in M'Banza Congo Provincial Hospital: AMDA collaborated with OCHA in another project carried out in Angola for the period of ten months from Jun. 2001 to Mar. 2002 with a special purpose to assist trypanosomiasis and emergency units of the MBanza Congo Provincial Hospital in Zaire Province. While providing the emergency and trypanosomiasis units with medicine and medical equipment, AMDA also contributed in strengthening these two units through training programme for local medical professionals led by the medical experts of AMDA's multi-national team. To promote early detection of trypanosomiasis, AMDA, in collaboration with OCHA, carried out screening campaigns

in M'Banza Congo, the provincial capital, and Noqui, bordering city to the Democratic Republic of Congo.

Kosovo, Serbia and Montenegro (Hospital Rehabilitation Programme)
In the turbulent years following the breakup of Yugoslavia, this place has undergone major transitions in various social sectors. In the summer of 1999, AMDA started its emergency medical relief project for the refugees returning from neighbouring states. In November 2001, "Hospital Rehabilitation Programme" (HRP) has officially begun under the leadership of UNDP and AMDA as its executing partner. The organization has worked closely with UNDP in improving quality of health service at four family health centres in the Municipalities of Prizren, Peje/Pec, Albana and Istoq/Istok. AMDA also partnered with WHO and local Ministry of Health in the "Family Medicine Specialization Programme" in their efforts to improve the quality of medical professionals in Kosovo (Serbia and Motenegro).

Mvanmar (Behaviour Change for Prevention of HIV/AI.DS): The relentless spread of HIV and its subsequent devastating impact on all aspects of human lives has become a serious social issue of today. To cope with this alarming situation, AMDA has implemented HIVAIDS prevention projects in several countries in Asia, Africa and South America and has produced substantive results. Because of the geographical and the social conditions of the region, the central dry zone of Myanmar faces potential risks in this regard. AMDA has been preliminarily working on this issue with such partners as UNICEF and MOH. Towards the end of this year, with a support from UNAIDS, AMDA will undertake several activities in counselling, education and other preventive measures against the spread of HIV/AIDS by focusing on behaviour change approach.

Nepal (Eastern Nepal AMDA Hospital and Primarv Health Care Project for Bhutanese Refugees): In Nepal AMDA has begun its operation in Damak, located in the eastern part of the country. Originally built in 1992 for the Bhutanese refugees, AMDA's secondary health care centre has been operating as a certified general hospital in providing medical service to refugees and local people. In 2001 AMDA reinforced surgery department of the hospital by dispatching a surgical team and upgrading services. UNHCR has been assisting AMDA in its programme for refugees implemented at the hospital.
AMDA has also been commissioned by UNHCR the primary health project for 100,000 Bhutanese refugees in the seven camps in Jhapa and adjacent districts since 2001. General health care including nutritional supplements have been provided to Bhutanese refugees. PHASE(Primarv Health Advancement through Sustained Empowerment)
To support the Nepalese in their struggle against poverty, UN has launched a programme called "Advancement of Women and Gender Equity." As part of the programme, in September, 2000, AMDA in collaboration with UNDP in its Participatory District Development Project (PDDP), has initiated an educational project in general health, maternity care and literacy programme for women in rural area of Rupandehi District.

Pakistan (Afghan Refugees Camps in Mohammad Kheil and Latif Abad
The beneficiaries of our projects in Pakistan have been Afghan refugees and some mixed minorities from other neighbouring countries. Some of these refugees have been in the country for more than twenty years while others arrived in the country following the Sep. 11 events in 2001 and the subsequent air strikes on Afghanistan resulting in population shift across the country. To cope with these refugees, AMDA, in cooperation with UNHCR, has been working in the two camps of Mohammad Kheil and Latif Abad in health and nutrition sectors since December 2001. While continuing with health screening for refugees, AMDA is offering OPD services through a Basic Health nit(BHU) in the above two camps. In addition to these services, AMDA has implemented medical referral system for refugee patients involving twelve other camps of the region.

UNV in Kenva, Zambia and Honduras: AMDA, in full support for W s mission to promote volunteerism in development programmes, dispatched four staff members to Kenya, Zambia and Honduras during the past four years. These UN Volunteers were jointly financed by UNV, Japan International Cooperation Agency and AMDA .

AMDA International will celebrate its 20th anniversary next year. The Executive Board of AMDA would like to take this opportunity to express gratitude to all those who worked together for the humanitarian causes. Especially, the United Nations and its agencies, have been AMDA's most trusted partners and without their cooperation and assistance AMDA's past accomplishments were not possible. AMDA will carry on its endeavour in its quest "for better quality of life for a better Future" as stated in its slogan.

3. Caritas Internationalis — International Confederation of Catholic Charities

General Consultative Status Granted 1999

Caritas Internationalis (CI) is a confederation of 163 Catholic relief, development and social service organizations present in 198 countries and territories. (Please note, the above-mentioned figure is as from 1 July 2003, after the CI general assembly). CI maintains direct links with the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (FAO), the World Food Programme (WFP), the United Nations Education, Scientific and Cultural Organization (UNESCO), the Joint United Nations Programme on HIV/AIDS (UNAIDS), the United Nations Children's Fund (UNICEF) and the International Labour Organization (ILO) (Special List). Its headquarters is situated in the Vatican, but it has offices in Geneva and New York. In New York, CI follows closely the work of the Security Council and the Committee on the Exercise of the Inalienable Rights of the Palestinian People. It took an active part in each session of the Preparatory Committee for the special session of the General Assembly entitled "World Summit for Social Development and beyond: achieving social development for all in a globalizing world" ("Copenhagen Plus Five"), held in Geneva. It participated in similar fashion in the entire process leading up to the International Conference on Financing for Development, held in 2002 in Monterrey. In Geneva, CI has participated for several years in the sessions of the Commission of Human Rights. In addition, at least 20 of its member organizations

are implementing agencies or partners of the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR) and WFP. CI also has representatives accredited to the United Nations in Vienna and to UNESCO.

In October 2002, at the invitation of Mr. Nitin Desai, Under-Secretary-General for Economic and Social Affairs, the General Secretary of CI Mr. Duncan MacLaren took part in the second International Forum for Social Development in New York. His statement focused on social development based on human dignity and the role of civil society. He also spoke about peacebuilding and reconciliation and the links between trade and social development. He concluded by calling for the establishment of an economic and social council.

On 27 June 2000, at the special session of the General Assembly on the implementation of the outcome of the World Summit for Social Development ("Copenhagen Plus Five"), CI delivered a joint statement with the network International Cooperation for Development and Solidarity (CIDSE) on achieving greater social justice.

As in the case of "Copenhagen Plus Five", CI took part in each session of the Preparatory Committee for the International Conference on Financing for Development. CI made several joint statements in the plenary meetings with the CIDSE network and other organizations. CI and CIDSE also organized side events during the breaks, giving delegates the opportunity to participate in panels (one dealt with global governance and another with poor countries' debt).

CI also participated, albeit to a lesser extent, in the World Conference against Racism, Racial Discrimination, Xenophobia and Related Intolerance (Durban, 2001) and the World Summit on Sustainable Development (Johannesburg, 2002).

At the Commission on Human Rights in Geneva, in recent years CI has spoken and/or distributed information on the situation of Iraqi children, child soldiers in Sierra Leone, the humanitarian situation in Palestine and trafficking in persons.

In addition, CI and its members have corresponded with and addressed letters to the Secretary-General of the United Nations Mr. Kofi Annan expressing their support for the Monterrey Consensus and welcoming his intention to provide adequate support for the follow-up to the Financing Conference.

In September 2002, CI took part in the United Nations International Conference of Civil Society in Support of the Palestinian People. It is currently preparing to participate in the September 2003 conference.

As stated above, several CI member organizations are implementing agencies for WFP. In 2002, CI participated in the consultations between WFP and civil society. The leaders of CI and WFP meet at least once a year.

In parallel with this work, CI maintains links with the World Bank and the International Monetary Fund and has had several meetings with the staff of the two institutions over the past four years. Our priorities for 2003-2007 include global governance, hunger, economic justice, peace, AIDS (CI and UNAIDS recently renewed their memorandum of understanding, which was also approved by the Holy See), trafficking in persons and, of course, humanitarian relief.

4. International Federation of ACAT (Action by Christians for the Abolition of Torture)

Special consultative status granted 1995

Existence and goals

The International Federation of ACAT (IFACAT) was established in 1987 to campaign throughout the world and by all appropriate legal means against torture and other cruel, inhuman or degrading treatment or punishment, including capital punishment, based on article 5 of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights. IFACAT was granted special consultative status with the Economic and Social Council in 1995. Before then, IFACAT and its main national associations already took part in symposiums and expert seminars aimed at providing the United Nations over time with mechanisms to combat the scourge of torture and its causes, including the Committee against Torture and the Special Rapporteur on torture. Subsequently, it was actively involved in the Working Group that elaborated the Optional Protocol to the Convention against Torture and Other Cruel, Inhuman or Degrading Treatment or Punishment, adopted by General Assembly on 18 December 2002.

Composition and geographical distribution

As an international federation, IFACAT brings together national associations whose goals are compatible with its statutes.

As at late 2002, it had 21 affiliated associations and 6 in the process of becoming affiliated. It also maintains links with correspondents in various countries of the world.

International leadership

IFACAT is based in Paris. Mr. Patrick Byrne, who has dual British and French nationality, has served as President since November 1998. In addition to the President, the international bureau comprises members from Burkina Faso, Canada, the Central African Republic, Switzerland and France.

Independence

IFACAT is independent of all governments, partisan organizations and religious institutions. It is financed by dues from its affiliated associations and by donations. From time to time, it may receive a grant or assistance in kind for an international project (a symposium or training session, for example) from a State, the European Union, the United Nations, or a Christian foundation or organization.

National human rights commissions

Some of the affiliated associations are involved in their countries' national human rights commissions, in their areas of specialization.

Participation in the Economic and Social Council and its subsidiary bodies and/or conferences and other United Nations meetings

Commission on Human Rights

Each year, IFACAT participates in the sessions of the Commission and contributes to its work by presenting written and oral statements on agenda items dealing with torture and capital punishment from a geographic and thematic point of view.

In addition to statements made jointly with other organizations or delivered orally, the main contributions of IFACAT are as follows:

2000: "Abolition of the death penalty" (E/CN.4/2000/NGO/107)
"Torture and detention in Brazil and the Democratic Republic of the Congo" (E/CN.4/2000/NGO/138)

2001: "Ratification of the Convention against Torture and Other Cruel, Inhuman or Degrading Treatment or Punishment" (E/CN.4/2001/NGO/181)
"Torture and detention in Chechnya (Russian Federation) and the Moluccas (Indonesia)" (E/CN.4/2001/NGO/180)

2002: "Terrorism and torture" (E/CN.4/2002/NGO/144)
"Standing invitations" (E/CN.4/2002/NGO/111)
"Torture and detention in the Democratic Republic of the Congo and Cameroon" (E/CN.4/2002/NGO/143)

IFACAT also cooperates closely with the Special Rapporteur on torture and other cruel, inhuman or degrading treatment or punishment, the Special Rapporteur on extrajudicial, summary or arbitrary executions, the Working Group on Enforced or Involuntary Disappearances and the Special Representative of the Secretary-General on human rights defenders. It sends them information and publicizes their appeals and

annual reports. It also assisted, through ACAT Brazil, in the preparation of the mission of the Special Rapporteur on torture to Brazil in 2000.

Subcommission on the Promotion and Protection of Human Rights

IFACAT participates regularly in the Subcommission's sessions and follows attentively its work on agenda items dealing with torture and capital punishment. It is very attached to this learned assembly of experts, who, by virtue of their independence and objectivity, can be kept informed about the serious situations reported by our network of affiliated associations without making assumptions or jumping to conclusions.

Committees: Committee against Torture, Human Rights Committee, Committee on the Rights of the Child

IFACAT follows closely the work of these Committees and the periodic reports submitted by governments. It collaborates with the Committees' experts and attends public meetings whenever it or its affiliated associations have information that could assist a committee in its consideration of a State party's report. It also monitors, through its national associations, the implementation of Committee recommendations on the ground.

In 1999, IFACAT provided information that contradicted aspects of the periodic reports submitted by Luxemburg and Mexico to the Committee against Torture.

In 2001, ACAT France, which is affiliated to IFACAT, alerted the Committee against Torture to the case of an Algerian national residing in France who was awaiting deportation.

In 2002, IFACAT made observations to the Committee on the Rights of the Child concerning the periodic report of Spain, to the Committee against Torture concerning the periodic reports of Luxemburg and Sweden and to the Human Rights Committee concerning the periodic report of Togo.

Working Group on the Draft Optional Protocol to the Convention against Torture and Other Cruel, Inhuman or Degrading Treatment or Punishment

IFACAT was actively involved in the sessions and activities of the Working Group until the final session and subsequently followed the process leading to the adoption of the Optional Protocol, along with the NGO coalition backing the project. IFACAT has supported this proposal for a system of visits to places of detention by national and international mechanisms — the future Subcommittee on Prevention of Torture and Other Cruel, Inhuman or Degrading Treatment or Punishment — since its conception in the 1970s.

Building on its experience of collaboration with the European Committee for the Prevention of Torture and Inhuman or Degrading Treatment or Punishment, IFACAT is preparing to assist future visiting mechanisms in carrying out their missions effectively. Training sessions have already been organized within our network of affiliated associations.

Diplomatic Conference of Plenipotentiaries on the Establishment of an International Criminal Court (Rome, 1998)

IFACAT, having put great effort into the NGO coalition that endeavoured both before and during the Conference to bring about the decision to create a permanent international criminal court and the adoption of the related statute, continues to observe closely the activities undertaken for the establishment and effective operation of the International Criminal Court.

It is raising awareness among its national associations of the functioning of this new institution. The associations are invited to lobby their governments to deposit instruments of ratification (if they have not yet done so) and to incorporate the provisions of the Statute in domestic law.

Cooperation with United Nations bodies and specialized agencies

The national associations in Africa have links with the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP) and have received support from UNDP for some of their activities.

Other relevant activities

Action in implementation of United Nations resolutions

The following resolutions are considered priorities by virtue of their implications:

- General Assembly resolution 53/105 on the establishment of the International Criminal Court: see above — Diplomatic Conference of Plenipotentiaries on the Establishment of an International Criminal Court (Rome, 1998);

- General Assembly resolution 52/149 of 12 December 1997 on the United Nations International Day in Support of Victims of Torture: IFACAT, in collaboration with other NGOs belonging to the Coalition of International NGOs against Torture (CINAT), is conducting a campaign for universal ratification of the Convention against Torture and other Cruel, Inhuman or Degrading Treatment or Punishment and for the communications procedures established under articles 21 and 22 of that instrument. It urges its national associations to observe the International Day in Support of Victims of Torture on 26 June in their countries;

- Commission on Human Rights resolution 2002/38 concerning the draft optional protocol to the Convention against Torture and other Cruel, Inhuman or Degrading Treatment or Punishment, which followed a succession of earlier resolutions and the Vienna Declaration and Programme of Action, adopted by the World Conference on Human Rights (Vienna, 1993);

- Commission on Human Rights resolution 2002/77 on the question of the death penalty: as a member of the World Coalition against the Death Penalty, IFACAT pays particular attention to the implementation of this resolution. It has undertaken a number of activities to this end (letters to governments, awareness-raising, etc.).

Consultations and cooperation with the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights (OHCHR)

IFACAT maintains links with OHCHR and provides information to its staff. Where there is an OHCHR office in a country that has a national association, the national association also maintains links with that office (in Cameroon, Mexico and the Democratic Republic of the Congo, for example).

In 2000, ACAT Canada collected 60,000 signatures for its campaign against the sexual exploitation of children. The purpose of the petition was to support the efforts under way to secure the adoption of the Optional Protocol to the Convention on the Rights of the Child on that issue. Representatives of the association travelled to Geneva, together with 12 children, to present the signatures to the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights.

IFACAT provides information on funding needs to the United Nations Voluntary Fund for Victims of Torture, or itself provides funding support, in particular for specific treatment centres established by its national associations, along with other organizations: the Integrated Care Programme for Victims of Torture (PAIST) in Mexico and Brazil, the Trauma Centre in Cameroon and the Centre Primo Levi in France. It also prepares documents and/or material at the request of the Economic and Social Council and its subsidiary bodies, or of the Secretariat of the United Nations.

Other examples of consultative and substantive activities, including financial assistance received from or given to the United Nations, field-level collaboration, joint sponsorship of seminars, studies, etc.

Since 1996, IFACAT, in collaboration with the Catholic University of Central Africa and the Institute of Human Rights in Lyons, has offered a biennial cycle of programmes for African human rights trainers and leaders, which takes place in Africa (Yaoundé, Cotonou, Dakar, etc.). The first session is devoted to practical courses and workshops, including a course on United Nations human rights protection mechanisms and a workshop on the role of NGOs in the United Nations. It is followed by jointly sponsored intersessional projects. The second session deals with project evaluation and a collective

review. This human rights education and inculcation programme in Africa receives support from the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights, including in the form of documentation. In August 2002, IFACAT organized an international seminar in Dakar on "African cultures and efforts to combat torture". On that occasion, a workshop on the United Nations was offered for participants. IFACAT reports regularly on United Nations activities in its bulletin *FIACAT News* and in the in-depth human rights studies it publishes. It also discusses such matters in its yearly progress report and in its training manuals. *Courrier de l'ACAT France* also reports on United Nations activities and resolutions. In addition, the IFACAT web site contains the texts of various international legal instruments relating to the organization's mandate and information on the different United Nations bodies with which it collaborates.

5. Latin American Human Rights Association

Special Consultative Status Granted 1987.

The basic objective of ALDHU is to promote and defend the validity of human rights in Latin America and the Caribbean. To such effects, it should propitiate initiatives for peace and to concert efforts in favor of the effective application of the universal and regional international treaties that they commit to the states to respect the rights of people. ALDHU's main objectives are: To promote and to disclose the knowledge of the rights consecrated in the international instruments of human rights, as well as the established mechanisms for their protection; To investigate, to evaluate and to act in situations of violation of the individual rights in the terms and under the conditions foreseen by their statutes; and To support and to coordinate the activities for the national and Latin American organizations for the Human Rights;

MAIN PROGRAMS AND PROJECTS IN THE PERIOD 1999-2002:

- The Initiative Amazon Project: This project was born with the objective to visualize the Amazon indigenous towns and to sensitizing to the rest of the world in front of the imminent threat of extinction of some of these towns; besides the imperious necessity of protecting the Amazon environment for the catastrophic risk that supposes for the whole human species and the planet threading the Amazon to disappear. The project has five defined action lines based on a communication strategy that covers the widest spectrum possible of receivers: *The Amazon news agency:* Directed to media of the world to cover, the demand of daily news on the events in the Amazon, this information powers like to a direct sources for the indigenous towns and indigenous organizations; *"Amazon Initiative"* Magazine: A bimonthly Edition that provides a wide public, under a reflection outline and analysis, for the most important topics of the amazons and especially for the indigenous towns; *Radio programs "The Voices of All Lives":* Radio Programs designed as instrument communicational guide so that the indigenous organizations work their own topics in the development of their activities. Elaborated in three languages and three native languages (English, Portuguese, Spanish, co fan, quichua and shuar); *Web Pages (WWW.iniciativaamazónica.org):* A web site designed to facilitate the massive access to general and specialized

information of the amazons; and *Studies and publications:* Investigations on key topics for the indigenous towns and Amazon organizations, of these products it is necessary to highlight the "Encyclopedia of the Amazon Indigenous Towns", edition of high editorial quality that provides wide demographic information, history, conflicts, Cosmo vision, iconography and photographs of more than 300 Amazon towns.

- **"Promotion AND Protection of the Human Rights for the Indigenous Towns of the Colombo-Ecuadorian Amazon" Project:** In the Colombian Amazon regions the non combatant population and inside them the indigenous towns, are victims of murders, massacres, harassment and fence to communities; forced displacement, armed confrontations amid their daily life; force recruitment to the young ones, the expansion of the economy on illicit cultivations, the prosecution and drug traffic, the fumigations and control measures to the provisioning and the mobility to people and their goods in indigenous population's areas where you struggles for the control of territories and populations.

In this context, ALDHU, executes the project at the moment to offer an effective support to the statement and protection of life, their territories and the cultures of their towns, its communities, its authorities, leaders and organization forms.

The project is developed in Colombia and Ecuador, in the regions of the Amazon, Caquetá, Guainía, Guaviare, Putumayo and Vaupes (in Colombia), and Sucumbios, Orellana and Nueva Loja (in Ecuador). The high-priority areas are Putumayo and the frontier with Ecuador.

- **"Human Rights for Woman Deprive of Freedom in Ecuador" Project:** From 1999 ALDHU, in cooperation with the "Embajada Real de los Paises Bajos", has executed an investigation process on the situation of women deprived of freedom in Ecuador. The investigation was carried out in five cities Quito, Tulcan, Quevedo, Machala and Loja. The final objective of the project was the presentation of an integral proposal on penitentiary, useful politics so that government's authorities elaborate in an integral plan of attention to the penitentiary system conjunction.

It was an extensive process in the time that, having like base the development of an investigation on the situation of the women in conflict with the penal law, at the same time had immediate impact on the march of the project that they repair the flagrant violations. And, effects to a medium term, related with the influence in the creation of a penitentiary politics from the government authorities responsible of the sector.

We also carry out a diagnosis of the violation of the detained women's human rights in the Centers of Provisional Detention, and the proposal from a pursuit system to these violations that it was elaborated and it was passed over for a pilot application to the Town Defense department in Quito.

The training component was in two senses: at level of the investigation teams on one hand and on the other hand to professionals of the penitentiary system and directly with women deprived of freedom.

The results placed by the investigation have been socialized in each one of the cities, so that the elaboration of proposals as much for the authorities as for the civil society, reflect the local realities and the necessity of an equally form of politics to a national level.

- **"Exercise and Recoverable ness of the Economic, Social and Cultural Rights with the Shuar Women in Morona Santiago–Ecuador:** From 1999 ALDHU, impels an in powerful process centered in the recovery of their rights for the indigenous Shuar woman inside the family, community and organizational spaces. Leaving this narrow relationship and the necessity of providing effective alternatives for the sustainable human development of this town, it was analyzed jointly with these women of this community, alternatives for economic sustainable frames inside their Cosmo vision and understanding of the economy. One of them and the one that is executing at the moment are the setting of a microbusiness net run by the Shuar woman whose purpose is the production and commercialization of medicinal aromatic plants and dehydrated condiments.

The work carried out by ALDHU in the area during four years previous to the elaboration of this productive proposal, allowed to build a process qualitatively different, it was looked to create the human conditions and materials that allow an integral exercise of the human rights of the Shuar woman, understood as subject of rights and as part of an ancestral town.

In strategic terms for the women Shuar the importance of the project resides in its visible insert in local processes of discussion and analysis around the development, they have been articulated strategically with local powers and with cooperation organisms, its vision and work methodologies are considered in the definition of political of local development and this experience looks for to be reproduced in other spaces.

- **Training program in Human Rights for State officials:** This program is an initiative of ALDHU, starting from the International Agreements. Institutional with several Ministries of Defense and Government and Police departments in countries of the region, for more than 8 years.

The proposal portions of the vision for the Officials in charge of the State security, for their functions, are in risk of violating Rights if it is that they don't apply the military, police procedures and the universal principles of human rights appropriately.

The general training of the armed officials of the Latin American societies reflect deficiencies in the knowledge of their own responsibility like main defenders of the human rights and of the principles and appropriate procedures that allow them to exercise their functions without harming the citizen's rights.

The formation courses in human rights imparted by ALDHU during the 2002, have concentrated on two clearly defined areas: For the armed forces: "Democratic Security and Human Rights" ; and For the Police departments: "Ethics, police procedures and Human Rights" . The beneficiaries of these courses were 420 superior officials of the Ecuadorian armed forces and more than 280 officials and sub officials of the Ecuadorian National Police, including branches of Special Forces as the anti narcotic groups, anti kidnapping departments and intervention rescue teams.

- **Intervention program in emergencies:** ALDHU has developed for more than one decade an intervention system in emergencies from a perspective that integrates the humanitarian attendance, the prevention of catastrophes and the population's recovery affected in the smallest possible term and that the process is also good to consolidate the community organization and to articulate it with the international solidary action.

This way ALDHU has worked with communities affected by diverse nature catastrophes in the most diverse scenarios.

- **Other promotion activities and defense for the Human Rights:** Investigation of the impacts of the fumigations in the frontier border Colombo–Ecuadorian; Mission for the observation of the electoral process in Ecuador ;Campaign for tipification of the Kidnapping like Humanity Crimes; Publication "Human Rights and Humanitarian International Right in the mark of the armed conflict and of the fumigations of the cultivations of coca. Department of the Putumayo" – Colombia; Publication about the experiences of constructing peace of the communities of the High Ariare in Colombia; Presentation of the candidacy of Baltasar Garzón to the Nobel Price of Peace 2002; and Periodic bulletins of analysis and pursuit of the situation of the Human Rights in countries of the region: Bulletins "What is happening"

- **International Juridical Actions**: The Latin American Association for the Human Rights, favors the international reclamation of cases that cannot be defended in their own countries by diverse juridical reasons where the crimes were made, in this period were: Fumigations Case, Banco Popular "Fondo Vision" Case, Daiki Maru Case, Newmont Peru Case, Spills of Fuels in Galapagos Jessica Ship Case, Cases Against American Tobacco Companies and Pablo Jaramillo Case, among others.

Participation in Conferences and Meeting of ECOSOC and its Subsidiary Bodies:

- Written exhibition presented by the Latin American Association for the Human Rights (ALDHU), 2002 "Prevention Of The Discrimination: Prevention Of The Discrimination and Protection Of The Minorities"

- In the World Conference in October 1999 it was presented in written way in Geneva before the Dra. Mary Robinson High Commissioner for Human Rights the report "Genocide and ethnocide in the order of the day: The critic humanitarian situation of the indigenous towns of the Colombian amazons."

- In October of 2002 we attended the meeting of the United Nations Commission in Geneva accompanied by the president of the Organization of Indigenous Towns of the Colombian Amazon (OPIAC). Empress Cahuache and in presence of the High Commissioner of the Human Rights Sergio Vieira de Mello it was presented a report on the worsening of the Human Rights of the Amazon indigenous towns in the Ecuadorian Colombo frontier.

In this same occasion next to other NGOs it was organized a forum on the situation of the Human Rights of the Amazon indigenous towns in Colombia

- **International Penal Court:** Work Meetings of the International Penal Court (New York 1999 up to 2001)

- **United Nations work groups on Contemporary Forms of Slavery:**

Attendance to the Conference and Participation in the Work Shop of Non Government Organizations on Women Traffic (Geneva, June 1999)

- **Subcommittee of Human Rights of the United Nations:** ALDHU and the COICA (Coordinator of Indigenous Organizations of the Amazon Cuenca) they present a report on the violation of human rights to the Indigenous Populations of the Amazon of Colombia. Geneva, March 1999.

- **Work Group for the Declaration of Human Rights of the Indigenous Towns:** ALDHU and the CONAIE (Confederation of Indigenous Nationalities of Ecuador) they participate in the Work Group with proposals. Geneva, October 1999.

- **UNESCO: Directors Conferences of Organizations for Human Rights (Paris 1999)**

In September of 1999 it was the presentation for the Latin American Human Rights report before the Social Sciences Direction of the UNESCO in Paris.

- Cooperation with other Agencies of the United Nations.

PNUD–ALDHU: Program of Human Rights, Security and Democracy: Ecuador 1994–1999. (It includes seminars, shops, publications, videos, other educational materials)

UNESCO–ALDHU: Installation of the Amazon Radio for the Peace, Amazon South Region of Ecuador - 1997–1999. Radio with bionational perspective (area of old territorial conflict between Ecuador and Peru)

UNESCO–ALDHU: Photographic Exhibition on Women of the Shuar Nationality Gualaquiza 1998, Quito 1999.